

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: INTERACADEMY COOPERATION IN PHYSICS: DELEGATION
VISIT IN US BY SOVIET ASTROPHYSICISTS (01.0802)

REF: STATE 142982

1. ON JULY 7 NAS PRESIDENT HANDLER RECEIVED TELEX FROM
ASUSSR VICE PRESIDENT VELIKHOV AS FOLLOWS: (BEGIN TEXT)
DELEGATION OF SOVIET ASTROPHYSICISTS HEADED BY DR NOVIKOV
LEAVES FOR USA ON JULY 14. THE LENGTH OF THEIR STAY WILL
MAKE THIRTY DAYS. SORRY FOR INCONVENIENCE POSTPONEMENT OF
ARRIVAL MAY HAVE CAUSED (END TEXT).
2. NAS HAD EXPECTED ARRIVAL SOVDEL NEW YORK JULY 7 FOR 60
DAYS CULMINATING WITH SECOND US-USSR JOINT RESEARCH SEMINAR
ON RELATIVISTIC ASTROPHYSICS (ASPEN, AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER
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- 8). ASIDE FROM PROBLEMS CAUSED BY DELAY, A 30-DAY VISIT
BEGINNING JULY 14 WOULD EXCLUDE DATES SCHEDULED FOR ASPEN
WORKSHOP, THE PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS OF THE VISIT.
3. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS ASAP FOLLOWING LETTER FROM DAVID
PINES TO VELIKHOV WITH COPY TO KULAKOV (ANY FEEDBACK FROM
KULAKOV TO NAS, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH EMBASSY, WOULD

BE APPRECIATED), NOTING PINES REQUEST THAT VELIKHOV
TELEPHONE HIM MONDAY, JUNE 10:

4. 01.0802 - JULY 7, 1978

ACADEMICIAN YEVGENIY P. VELIKHOV
VICE PRESIDENT
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE USSR
LENINSKIY PROSPEKT 14
MOSCOW, USSR

DEAR YEVGENIY:

YOUR TELEX OF JUNE 7 TO NAS PRESIDENT PHILIP HANDLER
ANNOUNCING THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE SOVIET
DELEGATION OF ASTROPHYSICISTS IN THE USA FROM JULY 7 TO 14
AND THE CURTAILMENT OF ITS VISIT FROM 60 TO 30 DAYS HAS
COME TO MY ATTENTION AND I HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH THE US
COORDINATORS OF THE VISIT, DON LAMB AND DOUG EARDLEY.
WHILE WE ARE NATURALLY DISAPPOINTED AT THIS NEWS I WOULD
LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A NUMBER OF
SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE OF THE VISIT
TO ENSURE THAT IT MAY BE AS PRODUCTIVE AS POSSIBLE.

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE CONTINUITY OF THE CONCEPT OF
A JOINT US-USSR RESEARCH SEMINAR IN ASTROPHYSICS AND THE
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OPPORTUNITY FOR INITIATION OF JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS, WE
BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR A 30-DAY VISIT BY
THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO BEGIN IN LATE AUGUST SO THAT THE
SECOND US-USSR JOINT RESEARCH SEMINAR IN RELATIVISTIC
ASTROPHYSICS, SCHEDULED IN ASPEN FROM AUGUST 28 TO
SEPTEMBER 8, MIGHT TAKE PLACE AS PLANNED. THE SEMINAR
COULD BE FOLLOWED BY AN ABBREVIATED SERIES OF VISITS AT
SELECTED US UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTERS FOR AN ADDITIONAL
TWO WEEKS. IF THIS OPTION IS ACCEPTABLE, WE WOULD PROPOSE
THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVE AUGUST 25 IN NEW YORK
WITH OPEN AEROFLOT TICKETS FROM NEW YORK TO DENVER.

A SECOND OPTION, OF COURSE, WOULD BE FOR THE SOVIET
DELEGATION TO ARRIVE IN NEW YORK ON JULY 14 FOR 30 DAYS IN
LINE WITH YOUR MESSAGE, IN WHICH CASE IT WOULD STILL BE
POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE PARTICIPATION AT THE SANTA CRUZ
WORKSHOP ON QUASARS AND ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEI AND THE
SEATTLE SUMMER SCHOOL ON SOURCES OF GRAVITATIONAL
RADIATION. WHILE EXCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING THE
BILATERAL ASPEN SEMINAR AND MOST, IF NOT ALL, SITE VISITS,
THIS PROGRAM WOULD ALSO OFFER SUBSTANTIAL SCIENTIFIC
BENEFIT ALTHOUGH WE DO CONSIDER IT SOMEWHAT LESS

PREFERABLE IN VIEW OF THE CONSIDERATIONS NOTED ABOVE. IF THIS OPTION IS CHOSEN, THE SOVIET DELEGATION SHOULD HAVE OPEN AEROFLOT TICKETS FROM NEW YORK TO SAN FRANCISCO.

NATURALLY, OUR FIRST PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO ARRIVE ON JULY 14 FOR THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF

60 DAYS. THE PROGRAM OF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SITE VISITS WHICH WE HAVE ORGANIZED FOR THE 60-DAY STAY SEEMS TO OFFER AN EXTRAORDINARILY RICH AND DIVERSE OPPORTUNITY FOR SOVIET AND AMERICAN SCIENTISTS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS IN THE AREA OF RELATIVISTIC ASTROPHYSICS AND IT WOULD OF COURSE BE UNFORTUNATE TO SACRIFICE ANY PART OF THE PROGRAM. WE HOPE THAT IT IS NOT TOO LATE FOR THIS OPTION TO BE
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GIVEN SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

WE ALSO VERY MUCH HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR A FULL 12-PERSON SOVIET DELEGATION TO VISIT THE US CONSISTING OF INDIVIDUALS WHOSE NAMES HAD BEEN AGREED UPON BY BOTH SIDES IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS.

BECAUSE THIS MATTER IS SO COMPLEX AND CANNOT EASILY BE RESOLVED THROUGH AN EXCHANGE OF TELEGRAMS, I WOULD LIKE TO URGE THAT YOU CALL ME AT ASPEN ON MONDAY (JULY 10) AT ABOUT 1800 HOURS MOSCOW TIME TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER FURTHER. IT WOULD ALSO BE GOOD IF IGOR NOVIKOV COULD SPEAK WITH DON LAMB, WHO WILL ALSO BE AT ASPEN AT THE SAME TIME, TO EXPLORE THE MOST OPTIMAL SOLUTION IN TERMS OF SCIENTIFIC SUBSTANCE. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE ASPEN CENTER FOR PHYSICS IS AREA CODE 303, 925-2585.

I WILL LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR REACTIONS TO THESE PROPOSALS. WITH KIND REGARDS,

SINCERELY YOURS,

DAVID PINES
US CO-CHAIRMAN
WORKING GROUP ON PHYSICS

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